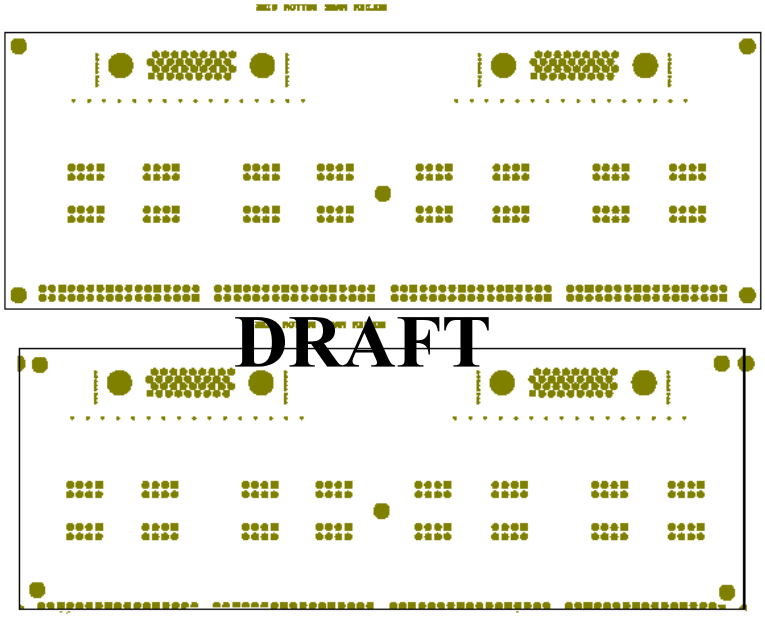
Report

When I made the first approach of the mock-up I saw that I couldn't feet the Patch Panel Cards using the VME cabinet then I used only the front.

To be allowed to use the cabinets I had to modify the design of the patch panel card. I've just cut ¼ '' at the bottom and the sides and I shifted the holes in the same distance. It's still pendent to modify the disposition of the testing terminals.



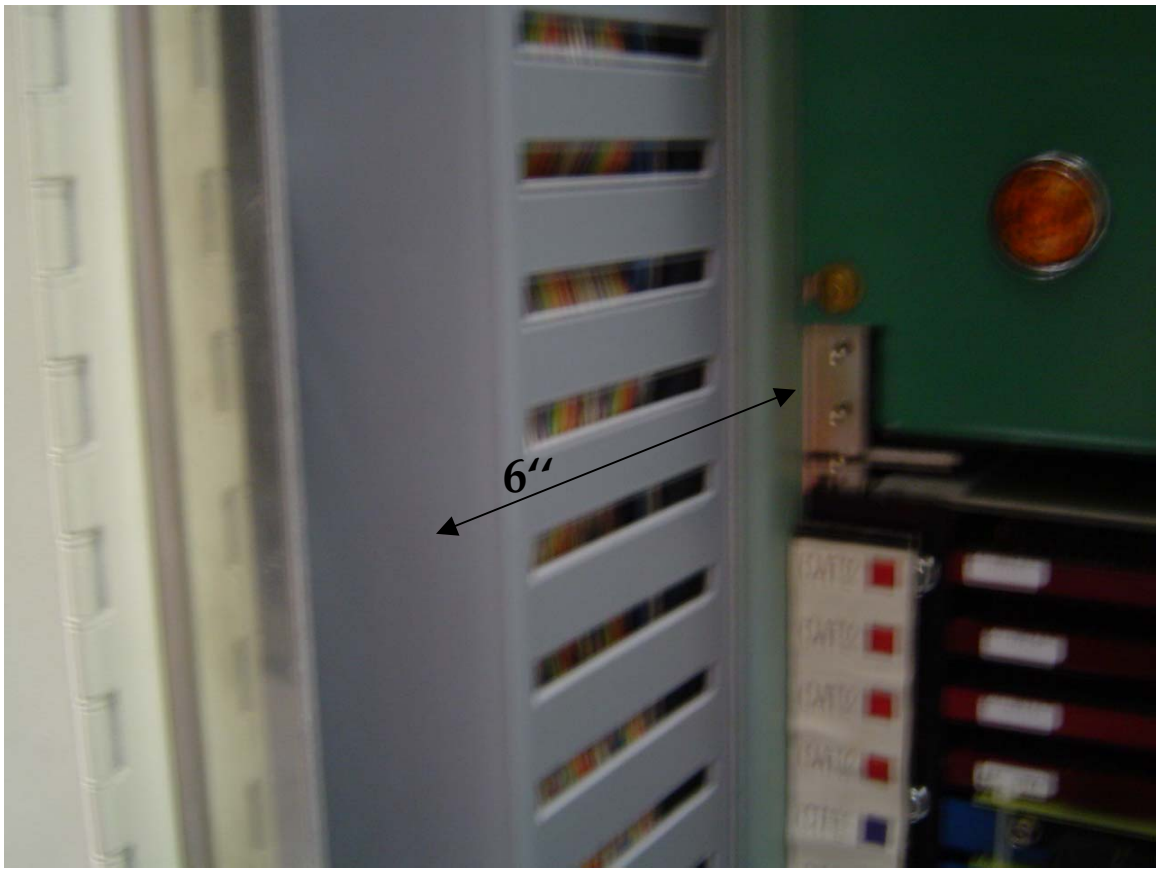
Last weekend I was working in the mock-up. I labeled 64 simile BLS cables plus 8 simile Pleated Foil Cables (both ends). I used Velcro to make the connectors of every cable.

In this way I set up two PPC following the labeling and also connecting the PFC in the ADF inputs.

Some conclusions and suggestions:

I found out that the BLS “blue cables” are not flexible enough and very delicate. They are very easy to damage. For instance I’ve got surprise when I cut them without any resistance using a desk scissors. Each single cable is a coaxial cable then we have 16 small coaxial cables per ribbon. This structure is easily damage when the cable is bended

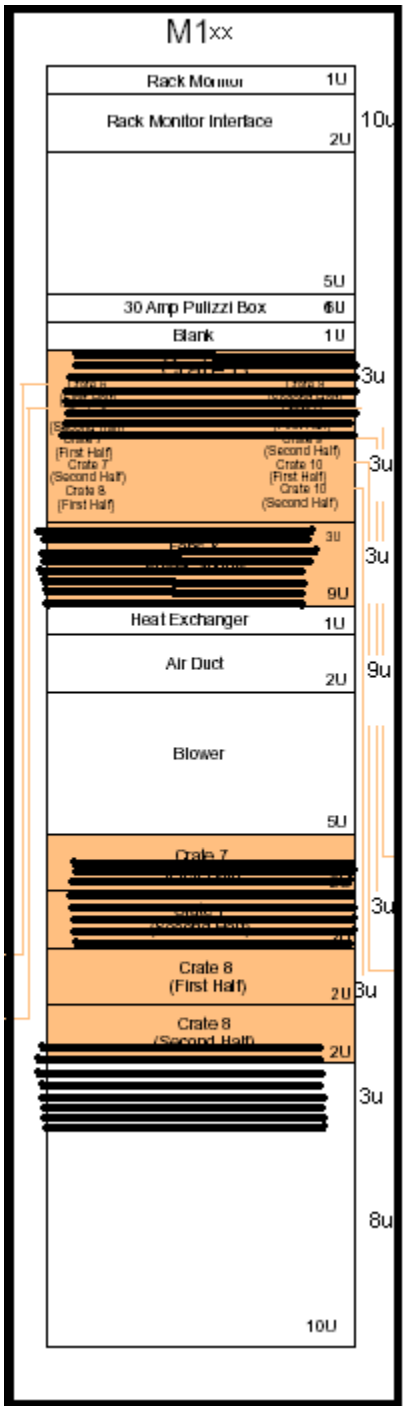
I went to the MCH to see the current layout:
The cables were ran from the side and front of the crate. Each crate has a 6 inches extension to run the BLS cables



I think that it is not possible to take them out of this structure without serious damaged.

But if we keep the cables in the same position we have to change the Patch Panel Card design. I would recommend also to change the layout of the BLS connectors on the PPC because they are too close each other in such a way that it is really difficult to connect them. I would recommend to distribute them in 4 rows of 4 connectors each instead of 2 of 8 connectors each.

I measured the disposition of each BLS cable on each rack. In the followed diagram there is the current layout (the thick lines are the 4BLS cable's ribbon). As we can see we need an extra 4u to fit the BLS or TAB / GAB crates but we can shift the upper ones 4u down.



In this way we have to change the Patch Panel Card design and put the Pleated Foil Cables in the inner face and the testing terminal 1u below each PPC and also in the front.

Following there are more pictures showing the current BLS cable layout.